

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 03366 080348Z  
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 H-01 PRS-01  
COME-00 AID-05 /068 W  
-----080353Z 066046 /14

P R 080308Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6818  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 3366

PASS TREASURY FOR SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EFIN, RP  
SUBJECT: FINANCE SECRETARY VIRATA SEEKS MEETING WITH SEC.  
BLUMENTHAL

1. PHILIPPINE SECRETARY OF FINANCE CEASAR VIRATA, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF IMF/IBRD, IS SEEKING MEETING WITH TREASURY SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL. VIRATA TELLS ME HE HAS PROPOSED THROUGH PHILIPPINE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IMF THAT HE MEET WITH BLUMENTHAL IN WASHINGTON ANYTIME IN PERIOD MARCH 23, 24 OR 25. HE HAS AS YET RECEIVED NO REPLY.

2. VIRATA SAYS HE PARTICULARLY WISHES TO CONSULT WITH BLUMENTHAL CONCERNING PROBLEMS HE SENSES WITH FRENCH GOVERNMENT. HE SAYS THAT FRANCE IS SO JEALOUS OF ITS ROLE AS SPONSOR AND HOST FOR CIEC CONFERENCE IN PARIS THAT IT SEEKS TO BLOCK ALL OTHER ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT DETRACT OR DISTRACT FROM ACHIEVEMENTS OF THAT CONFERENCE. SINCE VIRATA IS BEARISH ABOUT PROBABLE OUTCOME OF PARIS MEETINGS, HE FEELS IBRD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OUGHT TO TAKE ITS OWN INITIATIVES, INDEPENDENT OF PARIS TALKS. MATTER

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ASSUMES SOME URGENCY BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE IN WASHINGTON APRIL 17.

3. FOR SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL: VIRATA IS COMPETENT, CONSCIENTIOUS PROFESSIONAL WHO REPRESENTS BEST POSSIBLE PRAGMATIC THINKING AMONG THIRD WORLD FINANCIAL SPOKESMEN. ALTHOUGH HE IS DECEPTIVELY SHY AND LOW-KEY IN PERSONAL

ENCOUNTERS, HE HAS A FIRST-RATE MIND AND IS TENACIOUS  
NEGOTIATOR. A CLOSE AND CANDID RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM  
WOULD BE WELL WORTH WHILE.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009